

**BEST AVAILABLE COPY****Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

**Listing of Claims**

1. (Currently Amended) A strap winder which is dimensioned and configured to be mounted on a vehicle, the strap winder serving to wind an elongated strap into a coil and comprising:

a body;

a one-piece shaft rotatably supported by the body, the shaft having a longitudinal axis and a slotted end and being dimensioned and configured to receive the strap for winding it about the shaft, the slotted end being defined by a slot extending parallel to the longitudinal axis of the shaft, the slotted end being dimensioned and configured to retain an end of the strap and to allow the strap formed into a coil on the shaft to be removed from the shaft by axially translating the formed coil over the slotted end;

a power-operated driver comprising an electric motor connected to the shaft to rotate the shaft about its longitudinal axis; and

a power connector on the strap winder to connect the power-operated driver to a power source comprising a battery-containing electrical system associated with such vehicle, whereby to rotate the shaft to coil the strap onto the shaft.

2. (Currently Amended) A strap winder which is dimensioned and configured to be mounted on a vehicle, the strap winder serving to wind an elongated strap into a coil and comprising:

a body;

a one-piece shaft rotatably supported by the body, the shaft having a longitudinal axis and a slotted end and being dimensioned and configured to receive the strap for winding it about the shaft, the slotted end being defined by a slot extending parallel to the longitudinal axis of the shaft, the slotted end being dimensioned and configured to retain an end of the strap and to allow the strap formed into a coil on the

**BEST AVAILABLE COPY**

shaft to be removed from the shaft by axially translating the formed coil over the slotted end;

a power-operated driver connected to the shaft to rotate the shaft about its longitudinal axis; and

a power connector on the strap winder to connect the power-operated driver to a power source whereby to rotate the shaft to coil the strap onto the shaft;

The strap winder of claim 1 wherein the power-operated driver is a pneumatic motor.

3. (Original) The strap winder of claim 2 in combination with the vehicle, wherein the power source comprises a pneumatic system associated with the vehicle, and the strap winder is mounted on the vehicle.

4. (Cancelled.)

5. (Currently Amended) The strap winder of claim [[4]] 1 in combination with the vehicle, wherein the power source comprises a battery-containing electrical system associated with the vehicle, and the strap winder is mounted on the vehicle.

6. (Currently Amended) A strap winder which is dimensioned and configured to be mounted on a vehicle, the strap winder serving to wind an elongated strap into a coil and comprising:

a body;

a one-piece shaft rotatably supported by the body, the shaft having a longitudinal axis and a slotted end and being dimensioned and configured to receive the strap for winding it about the shaft, the slotted end being defined by a slot extending parallel to the longitudinal axis of the shaft, the slotted end being dimensioned and configured to retain an end of the strap and to allow the strap formed into a coil on the shaft to be removed from the shaft by axially translating the formed coil over the slotted end;

**BEST AVAILABLE COPY**

a power-operated driver connected to the shaft to rotate the shaft about its longitudinal axis; and  
a power connector on the strap winder to connect the power-operated driver  
to a power source whereby to rotate the shaft to coil the strap onto the shaft;  
The strap winder of claim 1 wherein the power-operated driver is a hydraulic motor.

7. (Original) The strap winder of claim 6 in combination with the vehicle, wherein the power source comprises a hydraulic system associated with the vehicle, and the strap winder is mounted on the vehicle.

8. (Currently Amended) The strap winder of any one of claims [[1,]] 3, 5 and 7 wherein the strap is a cargo strap.

9 - 11. (Cancelled.)

12. (Currently Amended) A strap winder which is dimensioned and configured to be mounted on a vehicle, the strap winder serving to wind an elongated strap into a coil and comprising:

a body;  
a one-piece shaft rotatably supported by the body, the shaft having a longitudinal axis and a slotted end and being dimensioned and configured to receive the strap for winding it about the shaft, the slotted end being defined by a slot extending parallel to the longitudinal axis of the shaft, the slotted end being dimensioned and configured to retain an end of the strap and to allow the strap formed into a coil on the shaft to be removed from the shaft by axially translating the formed coil over the slotted end;

a power-operated driver connected to the shaft to rotate the shaft about its longitudinal axis; and

a power connector on the strap winder to connect the power-operated driver to a power source whereby to rotate the shaft to coil the strap onto the shaft, [[The]] the

**BEST AVAILABLE COPY**

strap winder being of claim 4 in combination with a vehicle comprising a truck trailer and a truck cab, and wherein the strap winder is mounted on the truck trailer.

13. (Currently Amended) A strap winder in combination with a vehicle on which the strap winder is mounted, the strap winder being for winding an elongated strap into a coil, the strap winder and comprising:

a body;

a one-piece shaft rotatably supported by the body, the shaft having a longitudinal axis and a slotted end and being dimensioned and configured to receive the strap for winding the strap about the shaft, the slotted end being defined by a slot extending parallel to the longitudinal axis of the shaft, the slotted end being dimensioned and configured to retain an end of the strap and to allow the strap formed into a coil to be removed from the shaft by axially translating the formed coil over the slotted end;

a guide member mounted to one of the body and the shaft and having a guide surface disposed in generally perpendicular relation to the longitudinal axis of the shaft, the guide surface of the guide member extending at least to the slot to contact an edge of the strap being wound into the coil to form an edge of the coil coplanarly with the guide surface; and

a power-operated driver connected to the shaft to rotate the shaft about its longitudinal axis,

wherein the vehicle has a power source selected from the class consisting of a pneumatic system, a battery-containing electrical system, and a hydraulic system, and the power source is connected or connectible to the power-operated driver.

14. (Cancelled.)

15. (Currently Amended) The strap winder of any one of claims [[1,]] 3, 5, 7 or 14 wherein the vehicle is a truck and the elongated strap is a cargo strap.

16. (Cancelled.)

**BEST AVAILABLE COPY**

17. (Original) The strap winder of claim 13 wherein the guide member comprises a guide plate and the strap winder further comprises a guard plate mounted thereon generally parallel to the guide plate and spaced therefrom to receive the elongated strap between the guard plate and the guide plate.

18. (Original) The strap winder of claim 17 wherein the guard plate is pivotably mounted for pivoting movement between (1) a safety position in which it is in parallel, spaced relation to the guide plate, and (2) an access position in which it is withdrawn from its safety position to permit removal from the strap winder of a strap coiled about the shaft.

19. (Original) The strap winder of claim 17 or claim 18 wherein the guard plate is adjustably mounted on the strap winder whereby the axial distance along the shaft between the guard plate and the guide plate can be varied.

20. (Previously Presented) The strap winder of claim 13 wherein the guide member has a diameter of from about 12 to 18 inches.